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To: Microsoft ATR
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Subject: Microsoft Settlement

Every section of this settlement which addresses practices which Microsoft has traditionally used to eliminate the possibility of competition seems to be dependent on definitions of terms such as Non-Microsoft Middleware Product and Windows Operating System Product which are still vague enough to be disputable when Microsoft next feels threatened. Enforcement is by a Technical Committee whose paychecks come from Microsoft who are employed in Microsoft arranged offices with Microsoft provided resources on Microsoft's corporate campus in Redmond Washington. Even if these controls turn out to be sufficient to stop Microsoft's enforcement of its desktop monopoly we'll be back in this discussion 5 years from now when they expire. This settlement insures that no other company can use the anti-competitive tactics that Microsoft has taught the industry the hard way against Microsoft themselves. To me this seems unfair as these other companies have already been affected by Microsoft's past abuses even though most of these other companies have not proven as untrustworthy in this regard as Microsoft. This settlement does not actually have any effect whatsoever on Microsoft's existing monopoly. In my opinion this settlement is an insult to the DOJ and to computer users in general that we could so easily be fooled again. Microsoft will continue to buy all competition which can be bought and to find creative ways to kill all competition that they can't buy. Thank you for listening. :-)